

for the employee to be employed in the capacity of a consultant by the Radiation Laboratory. He stated that the employee impressed him considerably concerning his loyalty to the United States. He said that to the best of his knowledge, the employee and his wife are of good character, associates and loyal citizens.

DR. EDWARD TELLER, Consultant, Radiation Laboratory, advised that he has known JOHN VON NEWMANN since 1925. He said that VON NEWMANN was born in Budapest, Hungary, and that he knew him in Germany, England and the United States, and that he worked with him at Los Alamos, New Mexico in 1943. DR. TELLER related that VON NEWMANN is a genius of a scientist and that he has made some great contributions to science. He said that VON NEWMANN is acutely aware of the great danger of the Russian plans for world domination, and DR. TELLER proclaimed that VON NEWMANN is definitely "Anti-Russian."

DR. TELLER went on to relate that he considered VON NEWMANN to be a person of good character, and that his associates were of good choice. He added that in lieu of the fact that VON NEWMANN is such a brilliant person and scientist that his work brings him in contact with a wide variety of individuals and that undoubtedly he has had contact with some individuals who are sympathetic to Communist causes, but he felt that he was not closely associated with any such individuals. He reiterated that he believed that VON NEWMANN was positively loyal to the United States in all respects and that he is a person who can keep a secret and be discreet in his conversations relative to security matters.

DR. TELLER continued that he has been acquainted with VON NEWMANN's wife, KLARA, since approximately 1945, and although he is not well acquainted with her, she has never given him any reason to cause doubt concerning her character, loyalty, and associates.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

The files of the Livermore Police Department and the Credit Bureau of Livermore Valley did not contain any record or unfavorable information concerning the employee.

The files of the Berkeley Police Department and Credit Bureau of the Greater East Bay, as checked by SE [REDACTED] did not contain any record or unfavorable information concerning the employee. b7c

Reliable confidential informants familiar with certain phases of Un-American activities in the San Francisco Bay Area have advised that VON NEWMANN is unknown to them and that they have no information concerning him.

-RUC-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECRET

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 9-18-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/24, 31; 8/3, 5, 11, 12, 25-27; 9/3, 4, 8, 9, 15, 16/53	REPORT MADE BY b7C pm
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN-SF-10806-NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEA-E AGENCY <i>Photo-OSI Dict 6/2-4</i> REQ. REC'D <i>11-26-54</i> REP'T FORW. <i>12-1-54</i> BY <i>Saw-Clark</i>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark dated 7/20/53.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C. *b-1 [redacted] (s) 1cc- [redacted] SDE-Rm 10/28/54*

EMPLOYMENTS:

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] at the Atomic Energy Commission:

H. KEITH REINECKER, Chief, Personnel Security Section, Washington Area Security Operations Office, United States AEC, advised that the employee's security file is located at the AEC, New York City.

Mrs. GOLDIE HIGGINS, Correspondent Clerk, Personnel Operations, U. S. AEC, made available the employee's official personnel file which reflected that he received a presidential appointment as a member of the General Advisory Committee to the AEC on February 27, 1952. This appointment will expire in August, 1954. The file contained no additional or pertinent derogatory information.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

ANTHONY A. TOMEI, Administrative Assistant, General Advisory Committee to the AEC, advised that he has known the employee since February, 1951, and has had six or eight personal contacts per year with him during meetings of the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE 2 cc to <i>Atomic Energy Commission</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 116-1714-25 FEB 18 1954 REC'D FBI Classified by <i>SPIAG/ITM</i> Declassify on: <i>OADR 4-10-89</i> <i>#296598</i>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Washington Field (116-875) <i>2EB 531223</i>		<i>mm</i>

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SECRET

General Advisory Committee, Washington, D. C. He stated that on the basis of acquaintanceship with the employee, he considers him to be of good character and reputation. Mr. TOMEI added that he has no reason to question the employee's loyalty or choice of associates. He further advised that he knows of no other persons, on the General Advisory Committee, who are located in Washington, D. C., that might know the employee.

b7c The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, White Oak, Maryland:

b7c Miss VIOLA MARCUS, Personnel Clerk, furnished the personnel file of the employee which reflected the following information:

b7d He was appointed Consultant on Applied Mathematics, (Forty dollars per diem) on July 1, 1947, in the Mechanics Division Research Department, Naval Ordnance Laboratory. He was re-appointed to this position on July 1, 1948, and July 1, 1949. On July 1, 1950, he was re-appointed as a Consultant in the Aeroballistics Research Department. On July 1, 1951, he was re-appointed at Fifty dollars per diem. He received re-appointments to the same position July 1, 1952, and July 1, 1953. His birth data was reflected as December 28, 1903, Budapest, Hungary, and the file contained no additional pertinent or derogatory information.

b7c DANIEL C. SHANKS, Acting Chief, Applied Mathematics Division, advised that the employee was an eminent Mathematician available for consultation, but who as a matter of practice, was seldom called. He stated that the only time he recalled the employee being at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory was two or three years ago, at which time he gave a lecture. He added that to the best of his knowledge, no one at the Laboratory was personally acquainted with the employee.

The following persons advised that they were not personally acquainted with the employee, and that they knew him by reputation only. They stated that they were aware of nothing derogatory concerning his reputation, associates or loyalty.

BENJIMIN F. CHEYDLEUR, Applied Mathematics Division.

HUBERT H. EVINGER, Physics Research Department.

Dr. HERMANN H. KURZWEG, Chief, Aeroballistics Research Department.

b7c [REDACTED] The following investigation was conducted by SA

ARDELLA HOLLOWAY, Civilian Personnel, Office Secretary of Defense produced the employee's personnel file which reflected:

February 28, 1949, Excepted appointment, thirty days not to exceed June 30, 1949, Expert, Research and Development Board, (hereafter referred to as R & DB) Committee on Atomic Energy (hereafter referred to as CAE).

July 1, 1949, Excepted appointment thirty days NTE June 30, 1950, Expert, R & DB, CAE.

July 1, 1950, Excepted appointment, thirty days NTE June 30, 1951, Expert, R & DB, CAE.

January 17, 1951, Excepted appointment, twenty days, NTE June 30, 1951, Consultant, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group.

July 1, 1951, Excepted appointment thirty days NTE June 30, 1952, Consultant, JCS, WSEG.

July 1, 1951, Excepted appointment thirty days NTE June 30, 1952, Expert, R & DB, CAE.

July 1, 1952, Excepted appointment (Intermittent) NTE June 30, 1953, Expert, R & DB, CAE.

July 1, 1952, Excepted appointment (Intermittent) NTE June 30, 1953, Consultant, JCS, WSEG.

July 1, 1953, Excepted appointment (Intermittent) NTE June 30, 1954, Expert, Office Secretary of Defense, Project No. 1500.

July 1, 1953, Excepted appointment (Intermittent) NTE June 30, 1954, Consultant, Office Secretary of Defense, Project No. 1480.

WFO 116-875

The file contained no additional pertinent or derogatory information.

Miss GLORIA WISER, Civilian Personnel, AFSWP produced employee's personnel file which reflected:

February 13, 1950, Excepted appointment NTE June 30, 1950, (90 days).

July 1, 1950, Extension excepted appointment NTE June 30, 1951, (90 days) same capacity.

July 1, 1951, Extension NTE June 30, 1952, (90 days), same capacity.

July 1, 1952, Extension NTE June 30, 1953 (90 days), same capacity.

July 1, 1953, Extension NTE June 30, 1954 (90 days), same capacity

The file reflected no additional pertinent or derogatory information.

Major RICHARD SCHULER, CAE, Special Assistant Secretary on Research and Development, Office Secretary of Defense, (formerly the Research and Development Board), advised that he knows the employee as a Consultant with the CAE, but he feels he is not sufficiently acquainted with him to comment on his reputation, character, associates or loyalty.

He stated that Mr. J. C. STARKS, the head of the committee, has never to his knowledge met the employee and he could suggest no one with Research and Development who would know the employee other than by reputation.

Colonel BRUCE D. JONES, Armed Forces, Special Weapons Project, advised that the employee periodically headed a panel at the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project. He stated that he has had approximately four contacts with the employee in an official capacity and although he could not specifically comment regarding his reputation, character, loyalty or associates, nothing had ever come to his attention of a derogatory nature concerning him.

b7c
Dr. GEORGE WELSH, Weapons Systems Evaluations Group, Joint Chiefs of Staff, advised that he knew the employee by reputation and to a very slight extent socially. He added that he did not feel qualified to give an opinion concerning the employee's reputation, character, associates or loyalty, on the basis of his knowledge of him. He commented, however, that nothing whatever of a derogatory nature, concerning the employee, had ever come to his attention.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

The following agencies contain no record of the employee or his wife:

D. C. Credit Bureau
Metropolitan Police Department
Montgomery County Police, Rockville, Maryland
Virginia Division of Police
United States Park Police

MISCELLANEOUS:

The records of the Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission, reflect that a record check and inquiry of the employee for the position of Professor of Mathematics, Department of Army, was processed under Executive Order No. 9835, on October 31, 1949. No question of loyalty or his suitability was disclosed and the investigations reflect no additional pertinent or derogatory information.

b7c [SE [REDACTED] determined that there was no record for the employee or his wife at the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

SE [REDACTED] was advised that there was no record for the employee at the Office of Naval Intelligence.

SA [REDACTED] b3

b7c [SE [REDACTED] was advised that there was no record for the employee at the Passport Office, Department of State.

-RUC-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

MER

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE SEP 23 1953	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/27, 28; 8/5, 13, 28; 9/3, 8, 15-18/53	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7C
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806 - NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEAE

~~IS THIS OFFICE OF ORIGIN~~

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to Newark, 7/20/53.
Baltimore Airtel to Bureau, 9/17/53.

DETAILS:

Miscellaneous

AGENCY *Photo - OSI Dist 4*
REQ. REC'D *11-26-54*
REP'T FORW. *12-1-54*
BY *Jaw - det*

b7C
SA [REDACTED] caused a check to be made of the records of the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department, which contained no information concerning the employee or his family.

A number of the reliable confidential informants who are acquainted with certain phases of Communist activities in the New York area advised that they did not know the employee or his family.

Credit

b7C
by SE [REDACTED] The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as checked by SE [REDACTED] contained no information concerning the employee or his family.

Criminal

b7C
SA [REDACTED] caused a check to be made of the records of the New York City Police Department which contained no information concerning the employee or his family. Captain WILLIAM FOLEY, Nassau County Police Department, Mineola, New York, advised SA [REDACTED] that he has no record concerning the employee's daughter, MARIANNA VON NEUMANN.

- RUC -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: CVB SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 200 to Atomic Energy Commission 116-1914-27 SEP 28 1953 FEB 18 1954
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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (116-1914)
 FROM : SAC, NEWARK (116-119)
 SUBJECT: JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806 - NY
 AEAE

DATE: 9/23/53

*ALL
b7C* Rerep of SA [REDACTED] dated 9/23/53 at Newark and bulets to Newark dated 7/20/53 and 8/3/53.

Rebulet of 8/3/53 refers to Newark File 39-0, Newark letter 12/21/42 captioned KEARA VON NEUMANN - Naturalization Matter. Rebulet requested that information contained in Newark letter concerning the German Library of Information be reported. A review of Newark files reflects that the source material for this information was destroyed on 1/5/46.

1cc dtd 7/23/57
 WRR:bmm

116-1914-29
SEP 24 1953

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT NEWARK	DATE WHEN MADE 9/23/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/3, 6, 12, 14; 9/11, 17, 18, 22, 23/53	REPORT MADE BY bmm
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806 - NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEAE b7C
CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark, 7/20/53. Bureau letter to Newark, 8/3/53. DETAILS: AGENCY <i>cc - Photo OSI - Dist #4</i> REQ. REC'D <i>11-26-54</i> REP'T FORW. <i>12-1-54</i> EMPLOYMENT BY <i>QAW - gmk</i> b7C <i>1cc - all 9/27/54</i> <i>9/16</i> <i>1cc - photo 7/15/54</i> <i>50E - from 10/28/54</i> <u>Institute for Advanced Study,</u> <u>Princeton, New Jersey</u> Mrs. ROSANNA JAFFIN, Secretary to the Director, advised that Dr. VON NEUMANN joined the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study in 1933 and that he now enjoys permanent tenure at this institution. She said he is Director of their Electronic Computer Project and as such handles much confidential data. Mrs. JAFFIN added that VON NEUMANN presently resides at 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, N.J. Dr. HERMAN H. GOLDSTINE, Assistant Director, Electronic Computer Project, Institute for Advanced Study, advised he has known VON NEUMANN for the past thirteen years and has been intimately associated with him since 1942. Dr. GOLDSTINE characterized VON NEUMANN as being one of the most brilliant mathematicians in the world today. He said VON NEUMANN has done considerable research in mathematics and physics at the Institute and that he has made many vital contributions toward the defense efforts of this country. GOLDSTINE said VON NEUMANN's interests are those primarily of a scientist and that he had never evidenced in his presence any great interest in political matters.			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>DJA</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 1714-39 SEP 24 1953 FEB 18 1954 Atomic Energy Commission U.S. DEPT OF COMMERCE U.S. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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NK 116-119

Dr. GOLDSTINE described VON NEUMANN as conscientious, trustworthy, above reproach morally and professionally, and of unquestionable loyalty to this country. GOLDSTINE said he knew of no one he could recommend more highly for a position involving the security of this country.

Dr. ATLE SELBERG, Mathematics Department, Institute for Advanced Study, advised he has been acquainted with Dr. VON NEUMANN for the past six years and that his opinions of him are very favorable. SELBERG said VON NEUMANN impressed him as being extremely capable, conscientious, of good moral habits and associations, and undoubtedly a loyal American citizen. SELBERG said on the basis of his association with VON NEUMANN he would not hesitate to recommend him for a position of trust and confidence.

Dr. DEANE MONTGOMERY, Mathematics Department, Institute for Advanced Study, furnished substantially the same information regarding VON NEUMANN as did Dr. SELBERG.

Mrs. BETTY GORMAN, Secretary to Dr. VON NEUMANN, advised she has worked closely with him for the past three years and that all her contacts and dealings with him have been most satisfactory. She said Dr. VON NEUMANN has conducted himself in a manner above reproach and that she had absolutely no reason to question his character, loyalty, or associations.

NEIGHBORHOOD

26 Westcott Road
Princeton, New Jersey

Mrs. GEORGE S. HENDRY, 47 Westcott Road, advised that the VON NEUMANNs resided at the above listed address at the time she moved into this neighborhood approximately four years ago. She said she is not closely associated with them, explaining that nearly everyone residing on Westcott Road is connected with Princeton University and that most of the social contacts made by them are with their professional associates within the University.

Mrs. HENDRY said that insofar as she knows the VON NEUMANNs enjoy a fine reputation in the Princeton, N.J., area. Mrs. HENDRY said she felt she did not know them well enough to be in a position to recommend VON NEUMANN for a position of trust, however, she said that she has never heard anything that would make her question his loyalty to this country; she further stated that she did not believe the VON NEUMANNs were closely associated with anyone in the immediate neighborhood as most of their social contacts were with people connected with the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey.

NK 116-119

The following persons residing in this neighborhood, who have each known the VON NEUMANN family for the past two years, furnished substantially the same information regarding them as did Mrs. HENDRY.

Mrs. A. H. BILL, 21 Westcott Road
Mrs. CORDON LEY, 34 Westcott Road
Mrs. J. F. MULLER, 35 Westcott Road

CREDIT AND POLICE

Records of the Princeton, N.J., Police Department contain the following arrests for VON NEUMANN:

<u>Date of Arrest</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
2/27/30	Traffic Violation	suspended sentence
11/21/31	speeding	suspended sentence
3/18/35	traffic violation	suspended sentence
4/8/38	traffic violation	fined \$1.00
4/21/38	speeding	fined \$10. and court costs
9/14/39	traffic violation	fined \$1.00
10/16/51	motor vehicle violation	fined \$5. and court costs
1/16/53	reckless driving	fined \$2. and court costs

Records of the Trenton Credit Association, 551 Atlantic Avenue, Trenton, N.J., which covers Princeton, N.J., contain only favorable information concerning VON NEUMANN and members of his immediate family.

MISCELLANEOUS

During a previous applicant type investigation conducted in 1948, VON NEUMANN was interviewed concerning VALENTINE BARGMANN at which time he advised that BARGMANN had been his research assistant for about five years doing classified work in aerodynamics and that he had known BARGMANN for ten years.

It is noted that information concerning BARGMANN has been furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission under the caption "VALENTINE BARGMANN - 15- 76728".

NK 116-119

b7c
b7D The personnel files of the University of California reflect that GARRETT BIRKHOFF was recommended to the University of California by Dr. JOHN VON NEUMANN of Princeton University. Investigative reports concerning GARRETT BIRKHOFF have been previously furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission.

During a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1951, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

NK 116-119

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Newark Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised in July, 1950, that the Sed News Deutschland of July 13 announced that the Communist dominated German Academy of Science in Berlin, Soviet Sector, had elected two Americans as associate members. Newark T-2 advised that one of these Americans was JOHANN VON NEUMANN, Professor of Mathematics at Princeton.

~~- EEC -~~

NK 116-119

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

[REDACTED] b3

Newark T-2 is a photostatic copy of an incoming telegram from Berlin to the Secretary of State dated 7/14/50. This copy was received from the State Department through liaison channels on 7/17/50.

[REDACTED] b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

MCR

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 10/8/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/2,5/53	REPORT MADE BY
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806 - NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEAE <i>ALL b7C</i>
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark dated 7/20/53. Washington Field air-tel to New York dated 9/22/53. DETAILS: ALVIN F. RYAN, Chief of Personnel Clearance Branch Atomic Energy Commission, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, made available employees file which contained no additional pertinent information concerning employee. - RUC - AGENCY <i>Photo-Orl Dist Off-4</i> REQ. REC'D <i>11-26-54</i> REP'T FORW. <i>12-1-54</i> BY <i>JAW-det</i> <i>rec-715A</i> <i>SOE-hmm</i> <i>10/28/54</i> <i>kc-acc</i> <i>9/22/54</i> <i>cutb</i>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>L.V.B.</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT KNOXVILLE	DATE WHEN MADE 11-24-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11-10, 12, 23/53	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] bK aeb
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806- NY			CHARACTER OF CASE AEAE AGENCY Photo-OSI Dist 3/11 REQ. REC'D 11-26-54 REP'T FORW. 12-1-54 BY [Signature]

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark dated 7-20-53. *bK*

DETAILS: AT OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE: *100-715A*
500-4rm
10/28/54

ELVIN T. HENSON, contracts coordinator, Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Company, advised that JOHN VON NEUMANN has Consultant Subcontract Number 186 which commenced on January 1, 1949 and which runs to December 31, 1953. He said that VON NEUMANN's subcontract provided for consultant services on High Speed Computational Methods, Methods of Generating Random Variables and the Monti Carlo Mathematical Method in general. In connection with VON NEUMANN's services, Mr. HENSON stated that the employee provides consultant services to the Engineering Division of the K-25 Plant at Oak Ridge in the field of pure and applied mathematics as well as to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Mathematics Panel. Mr. HENSON said that aside from the fact that he personally supervises the employee's consultant subcontract, he knows very little concerning him. He pointed out that VON NEUMANN has to his knowledge never spent much time in Oak Ridge and particularly during the past several years. In this respect Mr. HENSON stated that VON NEUMANN has not been in Oak Ridge for any period of time long enough to establish residence.

DR. ALVIN M. WEINBERG, Research Director, ORNL, advised that he has been professionally acquainted with the employee for about 3 or 4 years. He indicated that he was first introduced to VON NEUMANN approximately 10 years ago but did not really get to know him other than through reputation until a few years ago. He said that the employee has the reputation of being one of the most influential scientists in the United States from the standpoint of military technology adding that VON NEUMANN also has the general reputation of being the 20th century's greatest mathematician. Dr. WEINBERG pointed out that although he does not regard himself as a close associate of the employee, he has on one or more occasions discussed politics with VON NEUMANN resulting in his having

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the opinion that the employee is one of the most violently anti-Russians he knows. Dr. WEINBERG pointed out that nothing has ever come to his attention reflecting adversely on the employee from the standpoint of character, loyalty or associates adding that he believes VON NEUMANN a loyal American.

DR. ALSTON S. HOUSEHOLDER, in Charge of the Mathematics Panel, ORNL, advised that he has been professionally acquainted with the employee since about 1949. He pointed out that he has had very little social contact with the employee, therefore knows little concerning VON NEUMANN's ideological beliefs. Dr. HOUSEHOLDER indicated, however, that he considers VON NEUMANN a loyal American, and a person of unimpeachable character and associates in that he has never had information to the contrary come to his attention.

DR. JACK MOSHMAN, Senior Statistician, ORNL, stated that in connection with the employee's consultant services with the Laboratory, he has had occasion during the past 3 years to work with DR. VON NEUMANN. DR. MOSHMAN said that his contacts with the employee have been strictly limited to professional ones adding that nothing reflecting adversely on the employee's character, loyalty, or associates has come to his attention. He pointed out that DR. VON NEUMANN has a reputation in the highest order in his various scientific fields.

SYLVAN CROMER, Engineering Superintendent, K-25 Plant, advised that although his division has a consultant subcontract with VON NEUMANN, the contract responsibilities have been fulfilled or performed entirely in the employee's office at Princeton, New Jersey and not at the K-25 Plant. Mr. CROMER stated that it has been several years since he has seen the employee in Oak Ridge, adding that he does not know VON NEUMANN personally therefore can furnish no information about him from the standpoint of character, loyalty or associates.

The following investigation was conducted by SE [REDACTED] b7C

Identification Officer L. C. WILSON, Oak Ridge Police Department, stated that he has no arrest records in his files identifiable with either JOHN VON NEUMANN or his wife, KLARA DAN VON NEUMANN.

AT KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE:

Identification Officer, GEORGE IRELAND, Knoxville Police Department, stated that his records contain nothing concerning the employee or his wife.

ANCIL HALL, Knoxville Credit Bureau, advised that the employee and his wife are not known to that Bureau.

- RUC-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT ALBUQUERQUE	DATE WHEN MADE 12/8/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/28; 10/7; 11/12, 13, 24, 25/53	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7C
TITLE JOHN VON NEUMANN - SF - 10806 - NY aka, John R. Von Neumann			CHARACTER OF CASE AEA E

SYNOPSIS *11/10/54*

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark dated July 20, 1953.
Report of SA **[REDACTED]** dated 4/7/47 at El Paso *AGENCY Puerto-OSID*

DETAILS:

b7C The title of this case has been modified to include the name of **JOHN R. VON NEUMANN** as reflected by personnel records at Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Credit records at Santa Fe, New Mexico, were checked by SA **[REDACTED]**

*1cc - NISA
SDE-Rm
10/28/54*
At Los Alamos, New Mexico

EMPLOYMENT

*1cc - alc
9/22/54
cur*

Personnel records of the University of California at Los Alamos, made available by Miss **ABRAHAM ZABADIL**, reflect that **VON NEUMANN** has been continuously attached to the Staff of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in the capacity of Consultant from November 2, 1943 to the present. The records indicate that he has been actively employed at Los Alamos in such capacity during numerous intermittent periods, of short duration, between 1943 and the present, and that he has also performed considerable work for the Laboratory at Princeton University and at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds within same period. Instant records do not contain any information unfavorable to him in any respect.

An application form executed by **VON NEUMANN** for the University of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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63 MAR 31 1954

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California under date of October 2, 1943, reflects that he was born on December 28, 1903, at Budapest, Hungary; that he entered the United States at New York City on September 25, 1931, and that he became a naturalized citizen of the United States on January 8, 1937, at Trenton, New Jersey. This application form reflects that his father, MAX VON NEUMANN, was deceased at that time, and that his mother, MARGARET VON NEUMANN, a naturalized citizen of the United States, was at that time residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dr. JORDAN CARSON MARK, Division Leader, ~~Theoretical Physics Division~~, University of California, advised that he first met VON NEUMANN and his wife about 1946 or 1947 and that he has worked rather closely with VON NEUMANN in his position as consultant since that time. He further advised that inasmuch as VON NEUMANN is administratively assigned as a consultant to the Theoretical Physics Division he has worked very closely with him whenever his services have been utilized by the Laboratory. He explained that Dr. VON NEUMANN usually spends a total of three or four weeks a year at Los Alamos, but has in the past performed considerable other work at his normal location of Princeton University and under various contracts with the University of California. Dr. MARK further advised that he has been a fairly close social acquaintance of the employee and his wife during a like period of time, and that they visit in each other's homes whenever convenient. He did not indicate, however, that he considered the VON NEUMANNs to be particularly intimate friends of he or his wife.

Dr. MARK stated that in his opinion Dr. VON NEUMANN and his wife are individuals of unimpeachable character, and are entirely loyal to the United States and the democratic form of government. He has never known either of them to entertain any sympathy for any foreign government or type of government. So far as he knows, the VON NEUMANNs do not have any close relative or particular contact still residing in continental Europe. He added that the employee and his wife have at various times appeared to be quite "disturbed" about the threat of communism or communist domination in both Europe and the United States. He stated that they have always appeared to be completely opposed to any such political philosophy.

Dr. MARK advised that the only organization that he has known VON NEUMANN to be affiliated with is the American mathematical society which he has served as president. He stated that other than himself, the VON NEUMANNs have particularly associated with Mr. and Mrs. STANISLAW ULAM and Mr. and Mrs. G. FOSTER EVANS at Los Alamos, and that to the best of his knowledge their social acquaintances at Princeton University have been limited to their professional colleagues.

Dr. MARK informed that he is cognizant of the fact that ISRAEL HALPERIN, a reputed Soviet espionage agent, was at one time a student of JOHN VON NEUMANN, but stated that VON NEUMANN has never indicated to him that he had any particularly close contact with HALPERIN, or that such association exceeded a normal professor-student relationship. He concluded

that he considers VON NEUMANN to be thoroughly trustworthy in regard to confidential information, and that he would give him his highest recommendation for any position of trust.

Mr. JAMES L. TUCK, Physicist and Group Leader, University of California, Los Alamos, recalls that he first met Dr. VON NEUMANN during the time that he was attending a scientific conference in England sometime in 1942, but that his contact with him there was very limited, and he has become much better acquainted with him through a working relationship at Los Alamos and Princeton University between 1944 and the present. He has had only a limited amount of social contact with him and is not acquainted with any of his relatives except his wife. He stated that Dr. VON NEUMANN and his wife are people of unimpeachable character, and that he has never had any reason to question their loyalty to the United States or the democratic form of government in any respect. He advised that they are both very intelligent individuals but that he has never known them to express more than a normal interest in political ideology or political questions. He has only known VON NEUMANN to be affiliated with professional organizations, and furthermore has only known him to associate with apparently responsible and loyal individuals.

Mr. TUCK definitely pointed out that VON NEUMANN is the actual originator of much classified data and confidential information relative to experimental weapons, but stated that to the best of his knowledge and belief VON NEUMANN has always been very careful in the handling and protection of such classified information. In this connection, he pointed out that VON NEUMANN and he were involved in an incident at Los Alamos, New Mexico, in August, 1953 which might be considered a procedural security violation, but stated that he does not consider that VON NEUMANN was actually responsible for this matter in any way. In describing the incident, he stated that Dr. T. H. JOHNSON, Director of the Division of Research, AEC, Washington, D. C., and a Mr. ROBERT R. WILSON of the Livermore, California, Laboratory, arrived at Los Alamos on a Sunday in the forepart of August, 1953, upon very short prior notice. These individuals desired to obtain the opinions of Dr. VON NEUMANN and Mr. TUCK relative to a matter in which Mr. WILSON was vitally concerned at that time. They explained however, that Mr. WILSON could only spend a matter of a few hours at Los Alamos and that it had not been possible to furnish the AEC Security Officials at Los Alamos sufficient data for them to furnish the appropriate clearances and passes for admission to the restricted or working areas at Los Alamos. Mr. TUCK advised that there was no question in the mind of either Dr. VON NEUMANN or himself, but that Dr. JOHNSON and Mr. WILSON were actually cleared for any information in connection with the AEC program, but that VON NEUMANN did voice an objection to discussing any such information on the Sunday at The Lodge, a public hotel at Los Alamos, and outside of the guarded or restricted areas where all confidential or classified work is normally performed. Mr. TUCK advised, however, that he and VON NEUMANN eventually acquiesced and did enter into a discussion of such a matter in a room at The Lodge because of the desires of Dr. JOHNSON and his insistence that Mr. WILSON could not remain at Los Alamos until the following Monday. Mr. TUCK stated, however, that this discussion was commenced over the

object of Dr. VON NEUMANN, who appeared fully cognizant of the fact that such a discussion should not have been commenced outside of an appropriately guarded or restricted area. He further stated that neither he nor VON NEUMANN discussed their work or anything that was being done at Los Alamos, and that actually, in his opinion, the data which were discussed was not of a highly classified nature. He added that he is quite certain that VON NEUMANN has never made a practice of discussing any possibly classified information in hotel rooms or public places, and that he is normally very discreet and careful in his conversations. He concluded that in his opinion VON NEUMANN can be completely trusted with confidential data.

Mr. NICHOLAS METROPOLIS, Group Leader, Theoretical Physics Division, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that he has known and worked with VON NEUMANN to a considerable extent between 1948 and the present. He has also had considerable social contact with VON NEUMANN and his wife, and advised specifically that he met YVONNE NEUMANN in Athens, Greece, in the Fall of 1952, and attended a Scientific Congress with them at Constantinople a few days later. At the conclusion of the Congress he returned to Athens with them, but YVONNE NEUMANN then went on to Rome and he did not have any further contact with them during that trip. He stated that neither during this trip, nor at any other time, has he ever known either Dr. or Mrs. VON NEUMANN to indicate that they presently have any close relative or particular contact at any place in continental Europe. He is cognizant of the fact that Mrs. VON NEUMANN has a sister residing in England, but is not acquainted with her in any way.

Mr. METROPOLIS stated that both VON NEUMANN and his wife are individuals of unimpeachable character, and that they are absolutely loyal to the United States and the democratic form of government. He added that he is sure that both Dr. and Mrs. VON NEUMANN are "definitely anti-communist" in their political philosophy or ideology. He has known VON NEUMANN to be an active member of the American Mathematical Society, and the American Physical Society, but has never known him to be affiliated with any other organization. He advised that the close associates of Dr. VON NEUMANN appeared to be limited almost entirely to individuals with whom they have professional connections and that at Los Alamos he has known them to particularly associate with Mr. and Mrs. STANISLAW ULAM and Mr. and Mrs. G. FOSTER EVANS. At Princeton University he has known the VON NEUMANNs to be very friendly with Professor H. D. SYMME and with OSCAR MORGANSTEIN, both members of the faculty there. He indicated that he considers all of these individuals to be loyal and reputable citizens.

Mr. METROPOLIS concluded that he has only known VON NEUMANN to be very careful and conscientious in the protection of any possibly classified information, and that he considers him to be entirely trustworthy with such information.

Mr. BENGT G. CARLSON, Group Leader, University of California at

Los Alamos, advised that he has worked with or for VON NEUMANN during occasional short periods between 1948 and the present, but that he has had only very casual outside or social contact with him. He stated that Dr. VON NEUMANN is a very capable and responsible individual of good character, and that he has never had any reason to question the loyalty of either he or his wife to the United States or the democratic form of government. He further advised that to the best of his knowledge neither Mr. or Mrs. VON NEUMANN have any current contacts or relatives outside of the United States, and that they only associate with the most reputable individuals. He concluded that to the best of his knowledge Dr. VON NEUMANN can be entirely trusted with confidential information.

Mr. GEORGE FOSTER EVANS and his wife, CERDA LOUISE EVANS, Mathematicians, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that they have known Dr. VAN NEUMANN and his wife since about 1948. They have worked with the VON NEUMANNs at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Princeton University, and Los Alamos, New Mexico, on several occasions since that time. They have also been quite close social friends and have frequently visited in each other's home. They do not believe that either Dr. VON NEUMANN or his wife has any close relative presently residing outside of the United States except one sister and at least one nephew of Mrs. VON NEUMANN who presently reside in England. They advised that Mrs. VON NEUMANN has indicated that she and her husband are acquainted with a few individuals that they believe to be still residing in Hungary, but that she has never indicated that they have had any recent contact with such individuals.

Mr. and Mrs. EVANS both stated that VON NEUMANN and his wife are entirely loyal to the United States and the democratic form of government, and that they are more pronounced in their statements indicating such loyalty than the average citizen. They further advised that to the best of their knowledge all of the relatives of employee and his wife residing in the United States are very respectable people and are loyal to the United States. They have known VON NEUMANN as a former president of the American Mathematical Society and to be affiliated with the American Physical Society, but they have never known either VON NEUMANN or his wife to be affiliated with any other organization. Mr. and Mrs. EVANS stated that to the best of their knowledge all associates of VON NEUMANN and his wife have been entirely responsible and loyal individuals. At Los Alamos they have known the VON NEUMANNs to most frequently associate with Dr. and Mrs. J. CARSON MARK, and with Mr. and Mrs. STANISLAW ULAM. They concluded that VON NEUMANN has always appeared to be very security conscious in regard to confidential information, and they consider him to be entirely trustworthy.

Mrs. LOIS ILES, Secretary, University of California at Los Alamos, advised that she has had some contact with Dr. VON NEUMANN during his visits and work at Los Alamos, but that such contact has been limited entirely to business and such matters as his accommodations and reservations. She stated that to the best of her knowledge he is a respectable individual and a loyal citizen. She further advised that during the visits of VON NEUMANN and his

wife to Los Alamos, they have only resided at the Lodge and never been furnished any type of private residential accommodations.

NEIGHBORS AND ACQUAINTANCES

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

Mrs. ELSIE MARSH, Zia Company Housing Office, advised that records of that office do not reflect that the employee has ever been furnished any type of private residential quarters at Los Alamos. She advised that to the best of her knowledge, VON NEUMANN and his wife have always resided at The Lodge during their occasional visits to Los Alamos.

Mr. ROBERT E. CARAWAY, Manager, and Mr. ARNOLD SHOLD, Assistant Manager, The Lodge, Los Alamos, each advised that he has known VON NEUMANN and his wife as occasional residents at The Lodge during short periods of time over the last five or six years. Each stated that they have always conducted themselves in a very respectable manner and appear to be entirely responsible individuals. Each stated that he has never had any reason to question the loyalty of VON NEUMANN or his wife in any respect, and that they only appear to associate with the very "top" scientists at Los Alamos.

Mr. STANISLAW MARCIN ULAM, Mathematician, University of California, at Los Alamos, advised that he first met Dr. VON NEUMANN during a trip he made to Poland in 1935, and that he has had considerable contact with him in the United States since about 1938. He explained, however, that within that period they have usually been affiliated with different Universities and his contact with VON NEUMANN has been only intermittent and somewhat limited to social visits whenever possible. He indicated, however, that he and his wife consider themselves to be rather intimate friends of Dr. and Mrs. VON NEUMANN.

Mr. ULAM stated that Dr. VON NEUMANN and his wife are individuals of unimpeachable character and habits and that Dr. VON NEUMANN is a world renowned and respected mathematician. He stated that since he and his wife became naturalized citizens of this country, there has never been any question about their complete loyalty to the United States and the democratic form of government. He further advised that to his knowledge, Mrs. VON NEUMANN has one sister presently residing in England, but they do not have any other relatives or particularly close contacts outside of the United States. Mr. ULAM has known Dr. VON NEUMANN as a very active member of the American Mathematical Society and the American Physical Society but has never known either he or his wife to be affiliated with any other organization. He also stated that in his opinion, both Dr. VON NEUMANN and his wife are "extremely conservative" in their political ideology and philosophy and they have never been affiliated with any possibly questionable organization.

In regard to the associates of Dr. and Mrs. VON NEUMANN, Mr. ULAM

stated that they have only associated with very reputable, loyal citizens who are eminent figures in various scientific fields. He advised that he has frequently observed a professor of economics named OSCAR MORGANSTEIN to visit in employee's home at Princeton University, and indicated that to the best of his knowledge, MORGANSTEIN is an entirely respectable and loyal individual. He concluded that he definitely believes that Dr. VON NEUMANN can be entirely trusted with any confidential information or restricted data and pointed out that he actually originates a great deal of such data in the field of atomic energy.

CREDIT

At Santa Fe, New Mexico

Mr. BERT BROWN, Manager, Merchant's Credit Service, which covers Los Alamos, New Mexico, advised that the records of that agency do not contain any information relative to the employee or his wife.

CRIMINAL

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

The records of the Los Alamos Police Department were checked with negative results in that they do not reflect any criminal data relative to employee or his wife.

MISCELLANEOUS

At Los Alamos, New Mexico

The files of the AEC Security Branch reflect that on August 10, 1953, information was furnished to the AEC by a confidential source indicating that a possible procedural security violation had been committed at Los Alamos on August 9, 1953, by Dr. T. H. JOHNSON, Director of Division of Research, AEC, Washington, D. C.; Mr. ROBERT R. WILSON of the Livermore (California) Laboratory; Mr. JAMES L. TUCK, and Dr. JOHN VON NEUMANN, in that they discussed possibly classified matter in a room at The Lodge, a public hotel located outside of the restricted areas at Los Alamos. The files reflect that Mr. TUCK was interviewed by AEC security officials and furnished information corresponding to that attributed to him above and indicating that although such a discussion was held, it was not at the instigation, and in fact was over the objection of Mr. TUCK and VON NEUMANN. Instant files further reflect that VON NEUMANN was also interviewed by AEC security officials; that he explained the data that were discussed on that occasion, and stated that he had been reluctant to participate in a discussion of this nature on a Sunday and

AQ 116-18726

outside of the restricted area, but had done so at the request of Dr. JOHNSON. So far as reflected by the files, no further action was taken by the AEC in regard to this matter, and the files do not contain any other information unfavorable to VON NEUMANN, except as previously furnished to the AEC.

The files of the AEC Security Branch at Los Alamos further reflect that information relative to the below listed individuals, all described as close associates of VON NEUMANN, has previously been furnished to the AEC:

1. KLARA DAN VON NEUMANN - SF - 22329 (wife)
2. JORDAN CARSON MARK - 3 - 12818
3. STANISLAW MARCIN ULAM - SF - 21234
4. FRANCOISE ULAM - 3 - 81293 - SF
5. GEORGE FOSTER EVANS - 3 - 12799
6. CERDA LOUISE EVANS - 3 - 27383

- RUC -

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: January 3, 1956

FROM : MR. R. R. ROACH

SUBJECT: DR. JOHN VON NEUMANN, COMMISSIONER
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (AEC)

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Bryan LaPlante of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) advised Liaison Agent [redacted] on December 29, 1955, that it had recently been discovered that Dr. Von Neumann has a very advanced case of cancer. He is taking daily radiation treatments at Walter Reed Hospital. The cancer is located in the shoulder area and has affected his equilibrium and motivation. He cannot walk without assistance. LaPlante stated that this condition was first discovered in August, 1955, and has progressed rapidly. LaPlante has talked to Dr. Shields Warren of Boston who is treating Von Neumann and from the conversation it is only a matter of time until the cancer will prove fatal. Dr. Von Neumann makes every effort to come to the office on each day but on several occasions has had to be taken home.

LaPlante stated this information is only known to a few top people in the AEC and that no publicity at all has been put out concerning it.

ACTION:

This is for your confidential information.

- 1 - Mr. Nichols
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Liaison Section
1 - Mr. [redacted]

RECORDED - 34

16 JAN 4 1956

50 JAN 20 1956

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(Serial No. of sheet)

UNITED STATES MILITARY CENSORSHIP

Santa Fe, New Mexico

To: Godofredo Garcia Academia nacional de Ciencias Exactas, Fisicas y Naturales de Lima Apartado 1979 Lima, Peru	To: Prof. John Von Neuman Box 1833, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Date of letter (or postmark if letter is undated): February 7, 1944	Number of inclosures: 1
Serial number of previous records:	Disposal of original letter: ☒ Fused. ☐ Deleted. ☐ Returned. ☐ Photostated. (Check action taken)
Consent by: SOSS	Date:

COMMENT

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you letter for the hospitality extended to Godofredo Garcia during his stay at Princeton. Also to let him know that he has been elected an associate member of the National Academy of Exact Sciences, physically and Natural of Lima.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Copy to:	Dr. C.
EC.	
EC-44	2-12-44

UNITED STATES MILITARY COMMISSION

Form 1, Rev. 10-1-43

From: Robert W.
Instituto Nacional De Cardiologia
Calzada de la Piedad 800
Mexico, D. F. Mexico

To: Prof. John Von Neumann
Inst. for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.
(P.O. No 1863, Santa Fe, New Mexico)

Date of letter (or postmark if letter is undated):

27 April 1945

Serial number of previous records:

Number of inclosures:

Disposal of original letter:

☒ Passed.	☐ Deleted.
☐ Condemned.	☐ Photographed.
☐ Returned.	☒ Photostated.

(Check action taken)

Comment by:

2084

Date:

12 May 1945

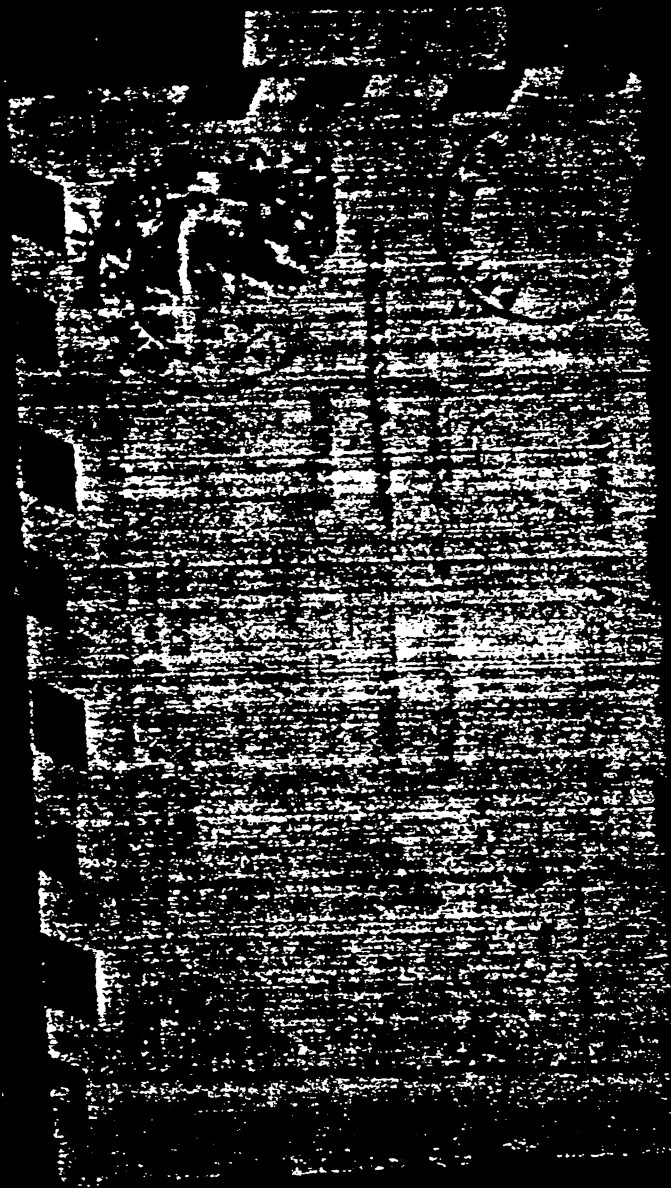
COMMENT

- I. MOVEMENTS OF VON NEUMANN KNOWN IN MEXICO.
- II. INDICATION THAT PRESENCE OF OTHER SCIENTISTS AT "Y"
IS KNOWN.
- III. VON NEUMANN INVITED TO COME TO MEXICO WHILE ON HIS
PRESENT VISIT TO "Y".

Examiner's Note: See photostat.

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy to—	Index
MRP	
CRP	
GRP	



Best Copy Available

Prof. John von Neumann

thing really depend on it, as our long time plans are far more important than any matter of personal convenience. On the other hand, you know that we are all victims of war fatigue and that any time off we can take will be welcome.

Please send all letters to me air mail and remember that they take something like a week to come, in view of the censorship. Also, please let me know such details as you can of the MIT negotiations and anything else I need to know to inform myself properly.

Vallarta and Rosenbluth send their regards. Apparently I spoke out of turn when I spoke of your coming to Guadalajara. After all, New Mexico is not far from here and the meeting will be from the 2nd of May to the 2 of June. If you should come on your own, everybody will have open arms. We have many friends in Mexican science and we should keep our relations open.

Sincerely yours,

Robert

P.S. New Mexico is so near here that you ought to be able to come down. They sent engineer a formal invitation at such short notice but if you should come down Rosenbluth & the others would be delighted. This is not my imagination.
R.V.

Office of Director, Dept. of the Interior, Wash., D.C., November 1913.

As requested in basic communication, there are inclosed five memoranda reports covering the investigation of subject.

E. V. CONSTANT

Colonel, General Staff Corps
Director, Intelligence Division

WPSQ

2-6-rpts. (6 cys. ea.)

Subject's Request for Investigation

To: Colonel R. V. Constant, Director of Intelligence,
Quarters 611, Governors Island, New York

1. Attached herewith Personnel Security Questionnaire, triplicate of John R. VON NEUMANN who has access to secret information on this Project.

2. A review of the inclosure indicates foreign connections, and this office is of the opinion that investigation should be initiated through Intelligence channels. Request your office conduct an investigation to include interviews with at least three unprejudiced persons who can certify as to the loyalty and disaffection of Subject.

3. The Central Files of Federal Bureau of Investigation, Office of Naval Intelligence and Military Intelligence Service in Washington disclosed no information re Subject except that the FBI has one J. V. Neumann, Fine Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, recorded as having been on the mailing list of the German Library of Information, Battery Place, New York, New York. This association is closely affiliated with The German Consulate General at the same address. Whether Subject and the individual of the FBI report are the same is not known by this office.

Curtis L. Clark
Curtis L. Clark,
Lt., Corps of Engineers
Area Intelligence Officer

Incl. 1, 2, 3
FDQ in trip.

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UNITED STATES

War Department

U.S. Engineer Service

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University of Calif., Home Office, Berkeley, Calif.; Applicant employed at
(Name of employer) P.O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, N.M. (Address)

Physician

Von Neumann John R.
(Last name) (First name) (Middle name) (Initial)P.O. Box 1663 Santa Fe New Mexico
(Address) (City) (State) (Zip)26 Westcott Rd. Princeton New Jersey
(Last previous address) (City) (State) (Zip)Budapest, Hungary Dec. 25, 1903 None
(Place of birth) (Date) (Citizenship)USA-Natur., 4196342-Jan. 8, 1937-Trenton, N.J.
(Citizenship) (If naturalized, give place, date, and number of certificate) (Date of registration)Male White 5'6" 150 lbs. Brown Brown
(Sex) (Color) (Height) (Weight) (Color of hair) (Color of eyes)

10. Relatives: (List following members of family, even though deceased.)

Relationship	Name in Full	Address	Country of Birth	Citizenship
Father:	Max Von Neumann	Deceased	Hungary	Hungarian
Mother:	Margaret Von Neumann	Philadelphia, Penna.	"	"
Sister:	Clara Von Neumann	Princeton, New Jersey	U.S.A.	U.S.A.
Children:	Marina Von Neumann	"	U.S.A.	"
	Charles Dan	Deceased	Hungary	Hungarian
	Camilla Dan	Budapest, Hungary	"	"
Brother:	Michael Von Neumann	Philadelphia, Penna.	"	"
Siblings and children:	Nicholas A. Von Neumann	U.S. Army	"	U.S.A.

11. Education: High School or College. (Name last attended only.)
School: Univ. of Budapest Budapest, Hungary Date: From 1925 to 1926

12. Military Service: Date: From None to Country

13. Employment: (Account for all time from 1925 to date.) Show present position first.

Name or Institution	Address	City and State	From	To
University of Calif.	P.O. Box 1663	Santa Fe, N.M.	1933	1941
Institute for Advanced Study	"	Princeton, N.J.	1942	1943
U.S. Navy Dept.	"	Washington, D.C.	1943	1944
Aberdeen Proving Grounds	"	Aberdeen, Md.	1941	1942

14. Membership in organizations: (List all organizations of which you are or have been a member since 1925.)

Name	Address	City and State	From	To
Hasson Club	Social	Princeton, N.J.	1933	1941
Cosmos Club	"	Washington, D.C.	1942	1943
Officers Club	"	Aberdeen, Md.	1941	1942

15. Foreign countries visited since 1925: (If foreign born show date and part of first entry here.)

Foreign Countries Visited Since 1925	Left (U.S.A.)	Returned (U.S.A.)	Reason for Visit
Hungary, Germany, Italy, -	Left and Returned N.Y.C.	Vacation and Scientific	
France, England	lecture trips-	every year	1930 to 1936
England - 1943-N.Y.C.-	Government business	(Navy Dept.)	

16. References: (Give names of three responsible citizens, not relatives or employees, who have known you the past 30 years.)

Name	Address	City and State	From	To
G. Veklen	Princeton, New Jersey	Professor	15	
L.E. Simon	Aberdeen, Md.	Army Officer	5	
K.F. Compton	Cambridge, Mass.	Pres. of Univ.	12	

For the University of California

J. Daniel Paulsen, M.D., Secretary

U.S. War Dept. (Approved September 21, 1944)

University Representative, N.Y. Engineer Service

From... Governors Island, New York

Date... 8 December 1943

Case No. 11 - 618048

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: JOSEF A. VON NEUMANN
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Examination of the files of the Office of
Naval Intelligence

On 30 November 1943, this Agent examined the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, 60 Church Street, New York, New York, to obtain information relative to this investigation.

This examination revealed that Subject had applied for a position in the Bureau of Ordnance of the United States Navy on 7 July 1942, and the report of the Navy's character investigation revealed that Subject was born 28 December 1903 at Budapest, Hungary.

Education: Evangelical Lutheran High School
University of Budapest
Zurich University in Switzerland

Entry into US: 25 September 1931
Naturalized: 8 January 1937 in the US District Court, Trenton, New Jersey
Organizations: American Philosophical Society
Scientific Advisory Committee to the Ballistic
Research Laboratory, Proving Center, Aberdeen, Maryland
National Defense Research Committee of the Office of
Scientific Research and Development
The National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D. C.

The following colleagues and associates of Subject at Princeton University were interviewed with favorable results:

R. C. Abler, Assistant Dean of Faculty, Princeton University
L. P. Eisenhart, Head of Mathematics Department, Princeton University
P. Kissane, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Princeton University
Frank Aydelotte, Director of the Institute of Advanced Study, Princeton,
New Jersey.
Professor Marston Morse, School of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced
Study, Princeton, New Jersey.
H. D. Smythe, Head of Physics Department, Princeton University.
H. P. Roberts, Head of Mathematics Department, Princeton University
(MEMO) Signed.....(CONTINUED).....

Typed.....
Sp. Agent. CIC

CONFIDENTIAL

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Enc

SI-618046

The results of this investigation indicated that Subject was a loyal American and a brilliant Scientist. As no adverse information was revealed it is presumed that Subject was employed by the Bureau of Ordnance, United States Navy.

Richard O. Kline
RICHARD O. KLINE
Agent, CIG

(KING)

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2.

CONFIDENTIAL

Place... Governors Island, New York

Date... 8 December 1943

Case No. H-613045

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: JOHN R. VON NEUMANN
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Examination of records of the Censorship of New York

On 30 November 1943, this Agent examined the files of the Censorship of New York at 67 Broadway, New York, New York, to obtain information relative to this investigation.

I This examination revealed that the Office of Naval Censorship had on three separate occasions intercepted messages sent either to or through Subject's wife, Clara Von Neumann. The first record of Subject appeared in a series of several cables sent both to and received from JOHN VON NEUMANN while he was living in London between 16 February and 22 April of 1942. These cables were all between Subject and his wife and contained greetings and advice as to his arrival and his prospective plans while in London. Also contained in this file was a cable dated 7 December 1942 from one Antonio Monterio-Faculade Deciencias, Lisbon, Portugal, who appeared to be a refugee attempting to get clearance to the United States, the purpose of his cable to urge Subject to take whatever steps possible to hasten his entrance to the United States. Subject had answered this cable stating that he had made no headway but would continue his efforts.

II In memorandum dated 18 June 1942, a cover made by the Office of Naval Censorship revealed that Mrs. Clara Von Neumann, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey, had sent and received a series of cables and telephone calls to and from Dr. Laidislas Richter at Zurich, Switzerland. This correspondence took place during 10 days in May of 1942. The substance of these messages concerned the health of Mrs. Von Neumann and that of her family in Hungary. It was the opinion of the Censorship of New York that Richter was conveying information to enemy territory and over to neutral Switzerland to receive the information from this country. It appeared Richter was a Hungarian National and also that he was a friend of either Mrs. Von Neumann or her family in Hungary. Inasmuch as her messages were of a seemingly harmless nature, it was thought that her sole reason for contacting Richter was to receive word from her family and to secure them of her safety in this country. No action was ever taken by the Navy in this regard.

III In a memorandum made in October, 1943 reference to Mrs. Von Neumann was intercepted indirectly when a cable from Switzerland was received by one Thomas Forbath, a native of Hungary who is presently an exchange student at
(MEMO)
Agent (COX-1943B)

Typed

By Agent CR

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11-412045

Columbia University, New York, New York. In answer to a follow-up letter written him by the Navy, Ferbath explained that he was acquainted with Mrs. Von Neumann's family in Hungary and their safety was to be communicated to her by him.

Richard O.C. Kreh
RICHARD O'C. KREH
Agent, CIG

(MEMO)

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2.

CONFIDENTIAL

Place... Governors Island, New York

Date... 8 December 1943.....

Case No. 11-413045

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: JOHN R. VON NEUMANN
 P. O. Box 1663
 Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Interview with Mr. Frank Aydelotte

On 4 December 1943, this Agent interviewed Mr. Frank Aydelotte, director. The Institute for Advanced Study, at his office in Princeton, New Jersey, to obtain information relative to Subject.

Aydelotte revealed that he had known Subject for the past 10 years and described him as a naturalized citizen, having been born in Hungary in December of 1903 and coming to the United States around 1930. He said Subject was educated at the University of Berlin and at the University of Zurich in Switzerland and had been employed as an instructor in both of these institutions prior to his coming to Princeton University. Subject came to Princeton in 1930 as a professor of Mathematics and was made a member of the faculty at the Institute for Advanced Study in 1933. He is presently employed in that position at a salary of \$12,500 per annum.

Aydelotte stated that Subject was divorced from his first wife around 1937 and married his present wife (Clara Von Neumann) in Hungary in 1938. Aydelotte continued that Clara Von Neumann is not a citizen, but he described her as a loyal person who is anxious to complete her residence requirements in order to be admitted to citizenship.

(An examination of the records of the Princeton Police Department, Princeton, New Jersey, revealed a questionnaire filed by Mrs. Von Neumann, which set forth that she had lost her Hungarian citizenship when she married an American citizen, and her naturalization proceedings were underway, final action pending the completion of three years residence.)

Aydelotte did not know the extent of Mrs. Von Neumann's family ties in Hungary but felt certain that they would not be strong enough to effect her loyalty to the United States or to effect Subject in his work for the United States Government.

Aydelotte characterized Subject as one of the most brilliant mathematicians and physicists in the world today, placing him next to Albert Einstein in this field. He said he had a great capacity for work and had constantly over a period of years made valuable contributions to the study of Mathematics. Aydelotte continued that for the past two or three years Subject had devoted all of his time to research and

(MEMO)

Signed..... (CONTINUED).....

Typed.....

Sp. Agent, CIC

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development of war instruments for the United States Government. He said he had been employed by the Army at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and presently spends two or three days a week there. He said about a year ago Subject had been employed by the Navy in some secret work and had spent sometime in England while on this project. He said that Subject was presently engaged in a secret research project for the Army at the Institute for Advanced Study and was attempting to find time to undertake some work for the British Admiralty.

Aydelotte stated that Subject was primarily a scientist and had never evidenced any great interest in politics or social problems; however, he said Subject had a natural concern for a more orderly world system and had elaborated with a Professor Morganstern of the Economics Department of Princeton University on a theory of economics based on mathematical principles. Subject and Morganstern are attempting to have this theory published, but Aydelotte thought that fewer than 5 or 6 economists in the world would be able to understand it inasmuch as the book was largely a mathematical treatise.

Aydelotte concluded by saying that there was absolutely no question in his mind as to Subject's loyalty. He said that Subject was Jewish by birth and certainly anti-Fascist. He thought he was more a liberal than a conservative but restated that his interest was passive, and he had never had as much as a short discussion with Subject on world politics of any nature.

Agent's Note:

Inasmuch as Subject's background has been thoroughly investigated by the Navy and by the Office of Naval Intelligence (Memo), this Agent believes that further investigation at Princeton University and the Institute for Advanced Study is unnecessary.

Richard O'C. Kehoe
RICHARD O'C. KEHOE
Agent, CIC

(MEMO)

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Place... Governors Island, New York

Date... 8 December 1943

Case No II - 413045

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: JOHN R. VON NEUMANN
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Examination of Immigration and Naturalization Files

On 29 November 1943, the Nationality and Status Section of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, reported to this office the following information concerning Subject:

Name: JOHN R. VON NEUMANN
Address: 20 Bayard Lane, Princeton, New Jersey
File No.: 2185
Petition No.: 1778
Born: 28 December 1903, Budapest, Hungary
Date of Entry: 28 January 1930 from Hamburg, Germany
Previous Residence: Budapest, Hungary
Declaration of Intention filed: 21 December 1931
Admitted to Citizenship: 8 January 1937
Employed: Princeton University September, 1931 - April, 1933
Institute for Advanced Study, April 1933
Children: Marina Von Neumann, New York, New York.

(MEMO)

Signat *Richard G. C. [Signature]*
Typed... RICHARD G. C. [Signature]
Sp. Agent, CIC

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Place...Governors Island, New York

Date...8 December 1943.....

Case No. II - 613045

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

Subject: JOHN R. VON NEUMANN
P. O. Box 1663
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Re: Agency Check

The following agencies were checked with the following results:

Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Jersey	MR	22 Nov 43
District Intelligence Office, 3rd Naval District	R	22 Nov 43
(See Memo)		
Censorship of New York (See Memo)	R	27 Nov 43
United States Civil Service Commission	MR	20 Nov 43
Princeton Police Department	MR	17 Nov 43

(MEMO)

Signed *Richard O.C. Kene*
Typed **RICHARD O.C. KENE**
Agent, CIC

CONFIDENTIAL

CASE SUMMARY

Case No. *Special*

1. Name *Van Dusen, John B.*
2. Position *Physician*
3. Date investigation initiated *11-4-43*
4. Service Command making report *2nd*
5. Date Investigation completed *12-8-43*
6. Adverse information *None*
7. Remarks

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT

**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON**

CI/KB
JL/jrb

28 October 1943.

Subject: Loyalty Check.

To: Lieut. Curtis L. Clark,
P. O. Box 1639,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

1. Reference is made to letter from your office 19 October 1943 inclosing a list of nine applicants starting with Albert Francis Birch. Reference is also made to teletype from this office dated 27 October 1943 clearing five names on the list.

2. Inclosed herewith is a summary of information concerning Albert Francis Birch. There was no record of him in MID or FBI.

3. A check of the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation disclosed the following information:

The name Delbert Lee Andrew Casey was mentioned on a list of members of Technocracy, Inc., in Detroit. No record of him in MID or ONI.

One J. V. Keimann, Fine Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, was on the mailing list of the German Library of Information, Battery Place, New York, New York. This association is closely affiliated with the German Consulate General at the same address. No record of him in MID or ONI.

4. There was no record of Lester S. Stamps in FBI or ONI. However, in MID files there was a notation that a Seventh Service Command report dated 1-12-42 was sent to Office Provost Marshal General, and a Sixth Service Command report dated 1-1-42 had also been sent to the Provost Marshal General. Upon calling the Provost Marshal General's office here it was learned that their files have been decentralized to the Service Commands, so we will request the Service Commands to send those reports to you.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

John Lumsdale, Jr.
JOHN LUMSDALE, Jr.,
Lieut. Colonel, Field Artillery,
Chief, Review Branch, CIG, MIS.



1 Inclosure

2 OCT 28 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

STUDY OF THE EFFECT NO. 20-2000-2
Approved under Act 6, 1961

Rec'd 10-10-43

101

2A

Do not
write
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Do not write above

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT and
PERSONNEL SECURITY QUESTIONNAIRE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

To enable the employer to discharge its obligations under the Espionage and National Defense statutes and regulations thereunder, the following facts are submitted for the information of the Government of the United States. This questionnaire is not intended to cast doubt upon the loyalty of any citizen of the United States, but on the contrary is intended to establish mutual confidence among loyal War workers by removing any suspicion which might be cast upon them by making as difficult as possible the employment of agents of foreign governments who by subversive and sabotage tactics might endanger the production of the war materiel for defense.

➔ This questionnaire is to be filled out by the applicant, and should be submitted to the employer, who should forward it to the Government. It should be filled out by the applicant, and should be submitted to the employer, who should forward it to the Government.

Applicant's Present Address: (Mention the following States only)

Address: 2186, PRINCETON, N.J. Date: OCT. 5, 1943

Name: JOHN VON NEUMANN (Check one: A or B)

Address: 2186 WESTCOTT ROAD, PRINCETON, N.J.

City: BUDAPEST (County: HUNGARY)

Date of Birth: DEC. 28, 1903 (Age: 39)

Place of Birth: U.S. (If Birth Certificate No. is given, give it here) (If Naturalized, give date of naturalization)

Identification Number: 41,6342 JAN. 8, 1937 TRENTON, MERCER, N.J.

Physical Description: YALE (Hair) WHITE (Color) BROWN (Color of Hair) BROWN (Color of Eyes) 5' 3" (Height) 170 lb (Weight)

Marital Status: Single Married X Divorced Separated Widower Unknown

Other Information: NONE (Check one: Yes, No, or Indefinite)

Signature: INDEFINITE

(Even though listed)

NAME	ADDRESS	COUNTRY WHERE BORN	CITIZENSHIP
Father: MAX VON NEUMANN	DECEASED	HUNGARY	HUNGARIAN
Mother: MARIALETT VON NEUMANN	1719 SPRUCE STREET PHILADELPHIA PA.		
Spouse: ELARA VON NEUMANN	26 WEST 177 ROAD PRINCETON N.J.	HUNGARY	U.S.
Children: (Age and Sex)		U.S.	U.S.
MARINA VON NEUMANN GIRL, 8 YEARS			
Parents-in-Law:			
CHARLES DAN	DECEASED	HUNGARY	HUNGARIAN
CAMILLA DAN	18 EULYAVSTRIS UICCA BUDAPEST, HUNGARY		
Brothers			
MICHAEL VON NEUMANN	1719 SPRUCE STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA.	HUNGARY	HUNGARIAN
and			
NICHOLAS A. VON NEUMANN	A.S.T.P., UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA, ILL. (U.S. ARMY)	HUNGARY	U.S.

(Use reverse side if necessary)

Name two persons
who should be
notified in case of
emergency

- (1) MRS. ELARA VON NEUMANN
(Name)
- (2) DR. FRANK AIDROITE
(Name)

26 WEST 177 ROAD,
PRINCETON, N.J.
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED
STUDY, PRINCETON, N.J.

EDUCATION Beginning with last school attended.

SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION	LOCATION CITY AND STATE	BEGAN	ENDED	GRADUATED YES NO	DEGREE OR HONORS IF
UNIVERSITY OF BUDAPEST	BUDAPEST, HUNGARY	1925	1926	X	PH.D.
ROYAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	BRUXELLES, BELGIUM	1923	1925	X	ENGINEER OF CHEMISTRY
UNIVERSITY OF GIESSEN, GERMANY	GIESSEN, GERMANY	1921	1923	X	
MUNICIPAL GYMNASIUM (HIGH SCHOOL)	BUDAPEST, HUNGARY	1918	1921	X	
PRINCETON SCHOOL	PRINCETON, N.J.	1909	1918	X	

Show present

Union first; account for all time from 1925

Also, show dates of any unemployment

Place PRINCETON N.J.

~~DATE~~

From 1935 To 1941

Employer INSTITUTE FOR
ADVANCED STUDY

Type of Business:

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Immediate Supervisor

FRANK A. J. COOPER,

DIRECTOR

Reason for quitting

STILL EMPLOYED, PART

TIME ~~1941~~ 1941

WORK WORK

Position PROFESSOR Salary 12,500

Duties RESEARCH IN

MATHEMATICS AND

MATHEMATICAL

PHYSICS

Equipment you used

Place WASHINGTON D.C.

From 1942 To 1945

Employer U.S. NAVY DEPT.,
EUROPEAN OFFICE

Type of Business:

Immediate Supervisor

DR. J. SIDES

Reason for quitting

STILL EMPLOYED

Position CONSULTANT, Salary 10,000

Duties

RESEARCH IN

THEORY OF

COMBUSTION

AND IN

GAS DYNAMICS

Equipment you used

show present

ation first; account for all time from 1933

ie; show dates of any unemployment

ABERDEEN, MD.

from

1941

To

DATE

Employer

U S

WAR

DEPT,

ABERDEEN PROVING, (FOUND)

BALLISTIC P.T. LAB.

Type of Business

Position

CONSULTANT Salary

PER

Duties

PART TIME

DIRECT

RESEARCH ON THEORY OF
EXPLOSIVES AND ON
GAS DYNAMICS

Immediate Supervisor

COL. L.E. SIMON

Reason for quitting

STILL EMPLOYED

Equipment you used

Position

Salary

Duties

To

Employer

Type of Business

Immediate Supervisor

Reason for quitting

Equipment you used

From _____ To _____ Country _____
 Navy NO Marines NO Coast Guard NO Honorable Discharge? NO

Red under _____ Local Board No. _____ Address _____
 Active Service YES (No) _____
 Classification III B Your Order No. 10727 PRINCETON
METTER CITY, (State) N. J.

Give number and relationship of persons dependent on you. 2: WIFE, DAUGHTER

MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS: (List all organizations of which you are or have been a member since 1900, fraternal, labor, business, political, etc.)

NAME	TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	TERM OF MEMBERSHIP 19 to 19
NASSAU CLUB	SOCIAL CLUB	7600 1ST STREET, PRINCETON, N.J.	{ 1934 TO DATE
COSMOS CLUB		WASHINGTON D.C., IS & I	{ 1942 TO DATE
OFFICERS CLUB		ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, ABERDEEN, MD	{ 1944 TO DATE
VARIOUS SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES (MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS)			

FOREIGN COUNTRIES VISITED SINCE 1900	LEFT USA DATE AND CITY	RETURNED USA DATE AND CITY	REASON FOR VISIT
HUNGARY, GERMANY, ITALY, FRANCE, ENGLAND	1930, NYC 1931, NYC 1932, NYC 1933, NYC 1934, NYC 1935, NYC 1937, NYC 1938, NYC	1931, NYC 1931, NYC 1932, NYC 1933, NYC 1934, NYC 1935, NYC 1937, NYC 1938, NYC	VACATION TRIPS SCIENTIFIC TRIPS IN PARIS (1935) AND CAMBRIDGE (1937)

ENGLAND 1933, NYC 1933, NYC 1933, NYC 1933, NYC
 Foreign Born (None)
 SAT 25, 1931 NYC

(Also names of persons who have been responsible and well established since you well during the past few years)

NAME	ADDRESS	EDUCATION OR OCCUPATION	REFERENCE
D. VEBLEN	57 BATTLE ROAD PRINCETON N.J.	UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR	15
E. SIMON	ACOUSTIC RES. LAB, ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND	COLONEL, U.S. ARMY	5
R. T. CAMPBELL	MAY. INST. OF TECHN. CAMBRIDGE, MASS.	UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT	15

Have you ever been arrested, indicted, or convicted for any violation of the law other than a minor traffic violation? (Yes or No) **NO** If "yes," give:

YEAR	NAME OF COURT	CITY, COUNTY AND STATE	NATURE OF OFFENSE	DISPOSITION

Do you have any nervous disorder, physical defect, or disability? Yes or No **NO** If "yes," please give details.

I certify that the foregoing statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that the Government of the United States will investigate the information contained herein, and that any false statement is cause for rejection of the application or dismissal after appointment.

John V. Thompson

Date **Oct 5, 1943**

Therese W. Wade

(Type in Space or Print)

We will be glad to have any pertinent additional information you may care to give us in writing.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEWARK, NEW JERSEY**

NK FILE NO. **100-30877**

AMN

REPORT MADE AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	DATE WHEN MADE 5/23/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/11, 17, 18, 29, 30; 5/17/46	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE JOHN R. VON NEWMAN, was. Dr. John Von Neumann, Professor John Von Newman, Johann Von Neumann.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject presently engaged in research in mathematics and physics at Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton, N.J. at a salary of \$12,500 per year. Subject previously closely associated with Manhattan Engineering Project. Naturalization records reflect subject born 12-28-03 at Budapest, Hungary and naturalized 1-8-37 at Trenton, N.J. Subject registered for Selective Service at Princeton, N.J. Information furnished by T-1 not of derogatory nature. Close associate of subject on Manhattan Engineering Project and at Princeton advises he considers subject very poor prospect for contact by any foreign country or by Communists in this country.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE **2/13/89** BY **SPL AG/90**

REFERENCE:

**JUN 1946
14**

Bureau letter to Newark dated 3-13-46.

DETAILS:

This investigation is predicated upon a letter received from the Bureau dated March 13, 1946 advising that JOHN R. VON NEWMAN had been a key scientist at the Los Alamos Project. The Newark Field Division was requested to conduct a highly discreet check of subject's usual contacts to determine if there were any contacts through which information could be transmitted to the Soviets.

[REDACTED] United States District Court, Clerk's Office, Trenton, New Jersey produced a Declaration of Intention #859 which was filed by Dr. JOHN VON NEUMANN residing on the Princeton-Kingston Road at Princeton, New Jersey. This Declaration of Intention reflected that Dr. VON NEUMANN was 27 years of age at the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> 1cc - State Dept TCF	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-344676-4
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - San Francisco 3 - Newark		16 MAR 28 1946

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NK 100-30877

time, that he was of Hungarian nationality and the Magyar Race. He was born in Budapest, Hungary on December 28, 1903 and was married to MANETTE on January 1, 1930 at Budapest, Hungary.

MANETTE was born at Budapest, Hungary on September 7, 1909 and she entered the United States at New York City on January 28, 1930.

The last foreign address of Dr. VON NEUMANN was Berlin, Germany and he immigrated to the United States from Bremen under the name of JOHANN VON NEUMANN on the SS BREMEN on January 28, 1930. The above information was sworn to in the United States District Court, Trenton, New Jersey on December 21, 1931.

The naturalization records reflected that the subject came into the United States as JOHANN VON NEUMANN on January 28, 1930 under Certificate of Arrival #VFP 593286.

Petition for Naturalization #1778 was filed under the name of JOHN VON NEUMAN, 20 Bayard Lane, Princeton, New Jersey. He listed his wife as MANETTE or MARLETTE and listed one child, MARINA, born March 6, 1935 in New York City. Information was also furnished that the child lived with him. References on this petition were H. P. ROBERTSON, 180 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, New Jersey, a professor, and OSWALD BEBLEN, 58 Battle Road, Princeton, New Jersey. Both witnesses stated that they had known the subject since September 28, 1921. Certificate of Naturalization #4196342 was issued to subject on January 8, 1937.

67C [REDACTED] Clerk of Local Board #1, Princeton, New Jersey produced the file on the subject from which the following information was taken:

The subject registered as JOHN VON NEUMANN, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey, telephone Princeton 2186. He listed the person who would always know his address as Dr. FRANK AYDELOTTE at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. He also furnished information that he was employed at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. He registered on February 14, 1942 and was described as white, 5'8", 186 pounds, brown eyes, brown hair, light complexion. On September 27, 1942 his address was changed to 1882 Columbia Road, N.W., Washington, D.C.

NK 100-30877

indicated that the subject was one of the best qualified mathematical physicists in the country.

Information which was assembled and furnished to the Newark Office by Confidential Informant T-1 is set forth as follows:

While the subject had the address of Professor JOHN VON NEUMAN, Box 1663, Sante Fe, New Mexico, he received mail from GODOFERDO GARCIA, Academia Nacional de Ciencias, Exactas Fisicas y Naturales de Lima, Apartado 1979, Lima, Peru. This letter was postmarked February 7, 1944 and was on the nature of a thank you letter for hospitality to GODOFERDO GARCIA during his stay at Princeton. This letter also informed the subject that GARCIA had been elected as an associate member of the National Academy of Exact Sciences, Physical and Natural, of Lima.

The subject also received a letter postmarked April 27, 1945 from "NORBERT W.", Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzanda de la piedad 300, Mexico, D.F. Mexico. This letter indicated that the movements of VON NEUMAN were known in Mexico and it was indicated that the presence of other scientists in the vicinity of Sante Fe, New Mexico was also known. VON NEUMAN was invited to visit Mexico while he was in Sante Fe. In this letter "NORBERT W." stated that a (Dr.) ROSENBLUETH and VALLARTA sent their regards to the subject. These two persons were associated apparently with "NORBERT W." at the Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia.

The following information was furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 in connection with the United States Engineering Office, Manhattan District. His relatives were listed as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Country where born</u>	<u>Citizenship</u>
MAX VON NEUMAN	Father (deceased)		Hungary	Hungarian
MARGARET VON NEUMAN	Mother	Philadelphia	Hungary	Hungarian
CLARA VON NEUMAN	Wife	Princeton	Hungary	USA
MARINA VON NEUMAN	Daughter	Princeton	USA	USA
CHARLES DAN	Father-in-law (deceased)		Hungary	Hungarian
CAMILIA DAN	Mother-in-law	Budapest	Hungary	Hungarian
MICHAEL VON NEUMAN	Brother	Philadelphia	Hungary	Hungarian
NICHOLAS A. VON NEUMAN		U.S. Army	Hungary	USA

The subject listed his employment as University of California, Post Office Box 1663, Sante Fe, New Mexico.

Subject indicated that he belonged to the following clubs:

Nassau Club, social club at Princeton, N.J. - 1939;
The Cosmos, social club at Washington, D.C. - 1942;
Officers Club, social club at Aberdeen, Md. - 1943.

Among the foreign countries visited by subject since 1930 were Hungary, Germany, Italy, France and England. He stated that his business in travelling abroad was vacation and scientific lecture trips every year from 1930 to 1938. He stated that he was out of the country, in England, in 1943 on business of the United States Navy Department. He listed as references the following persons:

Name	Address	Occupation	Years known
O. BEBLEN	Princeton, N.J.	Professor	15
L. E. SIMON	Aberdeen, Md.		5
K. T. COMPTON	Cambridge, Mass.	President of University	12

Further information furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 indicated that the subject belonged to the following organizations:

American Philosophical Society;
Scientific Advisory Committee to the Ballistic Research Laboratory, Proving Center, Aberdeen, Md.;
National Defense Research Committee of the Office of Scientific Research and Development;
The National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.

The information furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 indicated that the following colleagues and associates of the subject at Princeton, New Jersey were interviewed with favorable results:

R. C. ABLION, Assistant Dean of Faculty, Princeton University;
L. P. EISENHART, head of Mathematics Dept., Princeton;
P. KISSANE, head of the Dept. of Civil Engineering, Princeton;
Professor MARSTON MORSE, School of Mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton;
H. P. ROBERTS, head of Mathematics Dept., Princeton.

Confidential Informant T-1 interviewed Mr. FRANK AYDELOTTE, Director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, New Jersey, and the following information was set forth as a result of this interview:

AYDELOTTE stated that in 1943 he had known the subject for about 10 years and stated the subject had been employed as an instructor in the University of Berlin and the University of Zurich, Switzerland, prior to coming to Princeton, New Jersey.

The subject came to Princeton in 1930 as a professor of mathematics and made a member of the faculty at the Institute for Advanced Study in 1933. AYDELOTTE further advised that the subject was divorced from his first wife around 1937 and married his present wife, CLARA VON NEUMANN, in Hungary in 1938.

AYDELOTTE stated that the subject's wife, CLARA VON NEUMANN, was not a citizen of the United States but he described her as a loyal person who was completing her residence requirements in order to be admitted to citizenship. AYDELOTTE did not know the extent of Mrs. VON NEUMANN'S family ties in Hungary but felt certain that they would not be strong enough to affect her loyalty to the United States or affect the subject in his work for the United States Government.

AYDELOTTE characterized the subject as one of the most brilliant mathematicians in the world today placing him next to ALBERT EINSTEIN.

AYDELOTTE stated that the subject was primarily a scientist and had never evidenced any great interest in politics or social problems. He advised, however, that the subject had a natural concern for a more orderly world system and had collaborated with a Professor MORGANSTEIN of the Economics Department of Princeton University on the theory of economics based on mathematical principles. AYDELOTTE thought that fewer than five or six economists would be able to understand the theory of the subject inasmuch as it was a book based largely on a mathematical treatise.

AYDELOTTE stated that there was absolutely no question in his mind as to subject's loyalty. He stated that the subject was Jewish by birth and certainly anti-Fascist. He expressed the thought that the subject was more of a liberal than a conservative, and stated that the subject's interest was passive and that he had never had as much as a short discussion with the subject on world politics of any nature.

NK 100-30877

Information furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 further indicated that Mrs. CLARA VON NEUMANN, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey had sent and received a series of cables and telephone calls to and from a Dr. LAIDISLAS RITCHTER at Zurich, Switzerland.) It was indicated from the file that Dr. RITCHTER was conveying information in the immediate territory and came to neutral Switzerland to receive information from this country. It was stated that it appeared that RITCHTER was a Hungarian national and also that he was a friend of Mrs. VON NEUMANN or her family in Hungary. The messages were of a seemingly harmless nature and the reason for the calls was to receive word from and of her family and to assure them of her safety in this country.

Confidential Informant T-2 produced records which showed that JOHN NEUMANN had purchased an auto for \$650.00 in 1930.

Confidential Informant T-3 furnished information to the effect that JOHN VON NEUMANN, 26 Westcott Road, was employed in the Department of Mathematics at the Institute of Advanced Study and he did his banking at the Princeton Bank and Trust Company, Princeton, New Jersey. He indicated further that he owned no real estate and that he had resided in Princeton since 1933.

It further reflected that he was arrested in the State of Maryland about two years ago (date of report 3-20-49) on a charge of speeding. This record further reflected that the Lumbermen's Insurance Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania had declined to carry insurance on the subject's car due to a number of minor claims reported.

Chief of Police EDWARD MAHAN of the Princeton Police Department advised that he had no record of the subject but his records reflected that Mrs. JOHN VON NEUMANN of 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey, had been given a parking ticket on January 25, 1946.

Dr. M. H. NICHOLS in the Department of Physics, Palmer Laboratory, Princeton, New Jersey, advised that he had been acquainted with the subject since 1940. He stated that he had worked with the subject on a project which was not connected with Princeton University. He stated that he classified Dr. VON NEUMANN as one of the world's best mathematicians and advised that he considered him a loyal American. He stated he had no knowledge of the subject's economical or political beliefs.

Dr. HENRY D. SMYTHE, Department of Physics, Palmer Physical Laboratory, Princeton, New Jersey, was interviewed and stated that he had known the subject approximately 15 years and that he had known him very well for a period of seven or eight years. Dr. SMYTHE stated he knew subject's wife very well also. Dr. SMYTHE classified the subject's wife as the most passionately loyal American that he knew.

NK 100-30877

He stated that he considered the subject's loyalty of such a nature that no foreign power would even consider contacting him for information. He stated that he knew that JOHNNY VON NEUMANN lived up to the letter of the law with respect to his confidential work and did not even talk to him, Dr. SMYTHE, on the Manhattan Engineering Project until it was approved by the War Department.

Dr. SMYTHE stated that he did not consider the subject a likely prospect for any foreign government to contact and that he further did not consider him a likely contact for any of the American Communists.

- CLOSED -

NK 100-30877

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential Informant T-1:

A photostatic copy of reports and personal data from the files on VON NEWMAN at the Los Alamos DSM Project, Los Alamos, New Mexico, compiled by the War Department.

Confidential Informant T-2:

[REDACTED] Trenton Credit Company,
Trenton, New Jersey.

Confidential Informant T-3:

[REDACTED] Atlantic Credit Company,
Trenton, New Jersey.

b7c

May 26, 1950

JOHN R. VON NEWMAN
also known as
DR. JOHN R. VON NEUMANN

67D

[REDACTED]

Von Neumann was born in Budapest, Hungary, on December 28, 1903, and on December 8, 1937, became a United States citizen through naturalization at Trenton, New Jersey. Prior to entering the United States in September, 1931, he attended school in Hungary and in 1930 received his Ph.D Degree from the University of Budapest.

Von Neumann's record of previous employment indicates he has been employed at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Maryland, 1941-1942; U. S. Navy Department, Washington, D. C., 1941-1943; Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, 1943; the University of California, Berkeley, California, 1943; and in 1943, Von Neumann was a member of the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey.

100-344686-1 and 116-1914-1 and 6

cc - 100-344686
- 116-1914

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/13/89 BY SP1/AG/gtt

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R843 FEB 10 1960

1.
ENCLOSURE
100-344686-7

Dr. Von Neumann from 1930 to 1938 took yearly trips to Europe during which he lectured at the universities in Europe and also visited his family in Budapest. In 1943 he went to England on a mission for the United States Navy, and as of 1947 had not been abroad since that time. b7D

100-344686-6

Referral
Von Neumann has been described as one of the most brilliant mathematicians and physicists in the world today and has been reported by some to be next to Albert Einstein in this field.

100-344686-1

In 1946 Von Neumann was investigated under an Internal Security - R classification, which investigation was closed by Newark report dated May 23, 1946. He was also investigated as an Atomic Energy Act applicant in 1947, which resulted negatively as to derogatory information and was closed by Boston report dated April 29, 1947.

100-344686-4 and 116-1914-14

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont *AB*

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner *FB*

SUBJECT: JOHN R. VON NEWMAN, was.,
Dr. John Von Neumann,
Professor John Von Newman,
Johann Von Neumann
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

JK

DATE: December 4, 1950

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

28-1
9-11-1

Kelly
Kendall

PURPOSE

To furnish information concerning the captioned individual who is the subject of a letter dated November 14, 1950, from the Department of Defense, Armed Forces Security Agency.

DETAILS

Instant letter from the Department of Defense requested additional information concerning three matters, the first of which is as follows:

a. "Identities and political leanings or associations of the persons in Switzerland with whom the cables and phone calls were exchanged. (P.7 NK 100-30877)"

G.I.R. -7
b7c

The report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 23, 1946, at Newark, New Jersey, entitled "John R. Von Newman, was., Internal Security - R, (NK file 100-30877)," was disseminated to the Armed Forces Security Agency on October 11, 1950, according to a notation in the file. Information concerning point(a), above, was furnished by T-1 and was given as follows:

"Information furnished by Confidential Informant T-1 further indicated that Mrs. Clara Von Neumann, 26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey, had sent and received a series of cables and telephone calls to and from a Dr. Laidislas Richter at Zurich, Switzerland."

T-1 is identified in the above report as "a photostatic copy of reports and personal data from the files on Von Newman at the Los Alamos D.S.M. Project, Los Alamos, New Mexico, compiled by the War Department."

b. "Identity of the unknown gentleman in Mexico City, Norbert W. and identities of Dr. Rosenbluth and Valliarta, to include their political affiliations. (P. 4 NK 100-30877)"

CD:mjt

RECORDED - 49
INDEXED - 49

100-344686-8

JAN 27 1951

61 FEB 15 1951

memo to Mr. [unclear] 12/29/50
12-29-50

25

Doyle
Flan
W. [unclear]

b7c

Page four of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] reflects the following:

"Information which was assembled and furnished to the Newark Office by Confidential Informant T-1 is set forth as follows:The subject also received a letter postmarked April 27, 1945, from 'Norbert W.' Instituto Nacional de Cardiologia, Calzanda de la piedad 300, Mexico, D. F., Mexico. This letter indicated that the movements of Von Neuman were known in Mexico and it was indicated that the presence of other scientists in the vicinity of Santa Fe, New Mexico, was also known. Von Neuman was invited to visit Mexico while he was in Santa Fe. In this letter 'Norbert W.' stated that a (Doctor) Rosenblueth and Valliarta sent their regards to the subject. These two persons were associated apparently with 'Norbert W.' at the Instituto Nacional de la Cardiologia."

The T-1 in this instance is the same source as that reflected above.

c. Point c in the letter from the Armed Forces Security Agency is as follows: "Information as to the maiden name of present wife and political sympathies of her family in Hungary." b7c

Page six of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] sets out that Confidential Informant T-1 interviewed Dr. Frank Aydelotte, Director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, New Jersey, and the following information was set forth as a result of this interview. Aydelotte advised that the subject was divorced from his first wife around 1937 and married his present wife, Clara Von Neumann, in Hungary in 1938. Aydelotte stated that subject's wife, Clara Von Neumann, was not a citizen of the United States but he described her as a loyal person who was completing her residence requirements in order to be admitted to citizenship. Aydelotte did not know the extent of Mrs. Von Neumann's family ties in Hungary but he felt certain that they would not be strong enough to affect her loyalty to the United States or affect the subject in his work for the United States Government. (100-344686-4)

RECOMMENDATION

1. That this matter be handled by the Liaison Section.
2. That G-2 be advised of the request received from the Armed Forces Security Agency and permission requested to disclose to A.F.S.A. the identity of T-1 in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] It should be noted here that b7c

McCarthy was designated for IDA on June 21, 1949.

3. That, if permission is granted by G-2, A.F.S.A. be furnished the identity of T-1 and advised that in connection with point(c), this Bureau does not have available facilities in Hungary to obtain the information requested.

In connection with point 3, it should be noted that Bureau file 116-1914-6, page nine, sets out information obtained from the United States District Court Clerk's Office at Trenton, New Jersey, for Clara Von Neumann. However, the maiden name of Clara Von Neumann is not reflected nor is any information set forth in the file which would reflect the political sympathies of her family in Hungary.

*Info contained herein & identity of T-1
furnished to [REDACTED] 1/25/51
b7C*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [REDACTED] b7C

DATE: December 28, 1950

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN R. VON NEWMAN, was.,
 Dr. John Von Neumann,
 Professor John Von Neuman,
 Johann Von Neumann
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Nichols _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Harbo _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

Reference is made to memorandum from Mr. Baumgardner to Mr. Belmont dated December 4, 1950, recommending that Liaison obtain permission from G-2 to disclose to the Armed Forces Security Agency the identity of T-1 as contained in the Bureau's report dated May 23, 1946, at Newark, entitled "John R. Von Neuman, with aliases, Internal Security - R." T-1 is listed in the reports on Von Neuman compiled by the War Department at the Los Alamos DSM Project.

b7C For your information, reports prepared by the Manhattan District during the war are now under the controlling custody of the Atomic Energy Commission; therefore, this matter was discussed with Mr. [REDACTED] of the AEC Security Division. [REDACTED] has put in a request with his Los Alamos Security Office for the file on Von Neuman and the file is being forwarded to Washington. Upon receipt here, [REDACTED] stated he would review the file and then advise the Bureau as to whether there would be any objection to furnishing the identity of T-1. b7D

ACTION:

This matter will be followed with [REDACTED] and the results will be furnished to you. b7C

CWB:eb

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 2/13/81 BY Sp1/AG/af

RECORDED - 115

100-344686-9
JAN 27 1951

b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. [REDACTED] b7c

FROM : [REDACTED] b7c

SUBJECT: JOHN R. VON NEWMAN, was.,
Dr. John Von Neumann,
Professor John Von Newman,
Johann Von Neumann
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: January 16, 1951

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Reference is made to the memorandum from Mr. Baumgardner to Mr. Belmont dated December 4, 1950, requesting that Liaison obtain authority from G-2 to disclose to AFSA the identity of informant T-1 in Bureau report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 23, 1946 at Newark, New Jersey, entitled as above. This report answers a number of questions which the Armed Forces Security Agency has directed to the Bureau.

The identity of T-1 in this report is listed as a photostatic copy of reports and personal data from the files on subject at the Los Alamos D.S.M. Project, Los Alamos, New Mexico. It will be recalled that this was a project of the Manhattan Engineering District and that all reports prepared by MED are presently in the custody of the Atomic Energy Commission and not under the Army.

As a result, this matter was discussed with [REDACTED] of the AEC Security Office. By memorandum of December 28, 1950, it was pointed out that Mr. [REDACTED] was having his files checked and would advise the Bureau accordingly.

[REDACTED] has now informed that he has located the information attributed to T-1 and that the Atomic Energy Commission has no objection to the Bureau furnishing the identity of T-1 to the Armed Forces Security Agency.

ACTION:

It is recommended that this memorandum be furnished to the Internal Security Section.

AFSA advised as to identity of T-1
1/25/51

G. I. R. -7 b7D

RECORDED - 115

JAN 27 1951

61 FEB 15 1951

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FIVE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/13/82 BY SP1/AC/9th

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES SECURITY AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.**

NOV 14 1950

SUBJECT: NEUMANN, John Von

TO: J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

ATTN: Mr. C. C. DeLoach

Reference: FBI File No. ~~116-875~~

1. It would be appreciated if additional information could be furnished on the background of John Von NEUMANN to include the following points:

a. Identities and political leanings or associations of the persons in Switzerland with whom the cables and phone calls were exchanged. (P. 7 NK 100-30877)

b. Identity of the unknown gentleman in Mexico City, ~~X~~Norbert W." and identities of Dr ~~X~~ROSENBLUETH and ~~X~~VALLABTA, to include their political affiliations. (P. 4 NK 100-30877)

c. Information as to maiden name of present wife and political sympathies of her family in Hungary.

2. It is realized that all of this information may not be obtainable. However, it would be appreciated if all that can be obtained be forwarded to Director, Armed Forces Security Agency, Washington 25, D. C., TO BE OPENED ONLY BY AFSA-16.

FOR THE DIRECTOR, AFSA:

Carlo G. Meek

CARLOS F. MELICK
Lt. Colonel, CE, USA
Chief, Security Control Division

RECORDED - 63

EXPD - 63

JAN 27 1951

CONFIDENTIAL

62 MAR 2 1951

cc [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
CONFIDENTIAL

November 15, 1954

*Rec. via Liaison
from BF. LaPlante, acc
11 AM 11-17-54
CMB*
**Lewis L. Strauss, Chairman
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission**

**Bryan F. LaPlante, Chief
Washington Area Security Operations**

**Interview With Mr. Dayton Vohres of
Princeton, New Jersey**

*This material contains information affecting the
national defense within the meaning of the espionage laws,
Sec. 793 and 794, of the U.S.C., and its transmission or
revelation in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.*

SYMBOL: SW:BFL

NS
I recently went to the home of Mr. Dayton Vohres to keep an appointment with him for the purpose of discussing information he had concerning members of the Institute for Advanced Study; Dr. John Von Neumann and Mrs. Katherine Russell in particular. I was accompanied at this interview by Mr. Edward J. Brosnan of this office. We arrived at Mr. Vohres' home at 11:30 a. m., Friday, November 12, 1954, and visited with him until 1:30 p. m. that afternoon.

John R. Von Neumann
Mr. Vohres is seventy-two years of age and was a professor of Political Science at Princeton University from 1919 until 1950 when he retired at the age of sixty-eight. Mr. Vohres has been very active as a member of the City Council at Princeton for the past fourteen years. For the last four years, he has also acted as Commissioner of Police. He is apparently well known and well respected in the Princeton community and is very active in the civic affairs of Princeton.

The bulk of Mr. Vohres' information concerning members of the Institute for Advanced Study is based upon local town gossip, facts obtained from members of the Princeton Police Force, and Mr. Rudolph Tessein, PBA guard at the Institute.

Mr. Vohres said that the local townspeople considered the members of the Institute as being a very clanish group whose ideologies border somewhat on the "pink" side. He said that it seemed incredible to most of them that the Director of the Institute, Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, would be removed from access to classified information by the government and then remain as Director of the Institute for Advanced Study. He said that it was even more surprising when it was announced that Dr. Von Neumann, a subordinate to Dr. Oppenheimer and one who had defended Dr. Oppenheimer during his hearing, was appointed as a member of the Commission where he would have a high degree of access to sensitive information and may, in all probability, impart some of the information to him.

Mr. Vohres said that the incident which made him decide to discuss the matter with Senator Alexander Smith (of New Jersey) was a recent interview which he, Vohres, had with Mr. Rudolph Tessein, a guard at the Institute. Mr. Tessein told Mr. Vohres that Mrs. Gorman, Dr. Von Neumann's secretary, Mrs. Russell, Dr. Oppenheimer's secretary, and he held the combination to the vault at the Institute. Mr. Tessein also stated that Mrs. Russell and Mrs. Gorman worked closely together and that he heard Mrs. Russell was going to be made secretary

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CONFIDENTIAL

Lewis L. Strauss

- 2 -

November 15, 1954

to Dr. Von Neumann. After receiving this information from Mr. Tessein, Mr. Vohres decided to discuss same with his next-door neighbor, Charles Erdman, Jr., a former mayor of Princeton who served ten terms as a Republican mayor for that city. Mr. Erdman suggested that he and Mr. Vohres contact Senator Smith, which they did on Sunday, November 7, 1954. The foregoing information was passed along to Senator Smith, who, in turn, relayed same to you.

Mr. Vohres impressed me as being a very astute and alert gentleman who has a deep sense of loyalty to this country and who is an extremely security-conscious individual. Both Mr. Vohres and Mr. Erdman are Republican leaders and prominent citizens of Princeton. Mr. Vohres stated that he is well acquainted with the business leaders of the town of Princeton, the Board of Regents, and the professors of Princeton University.

Mr. Vohres added that a Professor James W. Alexander, member of the Institute for Advanced Study and professor in the School of Mathematics at Princeton, has long been a member of the Communist Party; that he openly admitted it and held Communist Party meetings at his home frequently during the Depression years. Mr. Vohres stated that Dr. John Von Neumann and Professor Alexander were well acquainted.

Another incident outlined by Mr. Vohres involves a prominent and respected citizen of Princeton referred to by Mr. Vohres as Mrs. Brummer, who, according to Mr. Vohres, is your first cousin. Mr. Vohres said that he plays bridge with Mrs. Brummer frequently and that on one occasion in the summer of 1953 Mrs. Brummer's gardener by the name of "Rossi" had told Nellie, the Irish cook for Mrs. Brummer, that he was going abroad for a visit and that he had a package which he was to deliver to someone for Dr. Oppenheimer. Mr. Vohres stated that he contacted the local FBI agent in Princeton and gave him this information and that he further understood a full-scale investigation was made by the FBI.

I explained to Mr. Vohres the fact that we had removed all classified information from the vault at Princeton University; that Dr. John Von Neumann had been thoroughly investigated and cleared by the government prior to his appointment, and that present plans were for us to establish a facility aside and apart from the University in Princeton which would be operated by AEC employees for use by all consultants of the Commission and other individuals in that area who would require access to classified information. I added that, in this way, we could assure the proper security safeguards for the protection of classified information and would have a much better control of all security interests in that area.

Mr. Vohres stated that he could not expand upon the information furnished Senator Smith or me; however, he felt it necessary to call it to the attention of the proper authorities.

I thanked Mr. Vohres for his kind cooperation and told him that I would relay same to you.

11/15/54
Strauss
replied this report
and that was re
wrote "Mrs. Brummer"
and "Rossi" to Vohres
and told me to
write and add w/
see if Alex Smith
was in line of work
of Vohres

2

CONFIDENTIAL

11/16/54
Sen Smith
we need this info
I am drawing the
info from
inform by our
information
inform Chairman
Baker